

**SPECIAL ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
(SERVES WITHOUT COMPENSATION)
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA
Honorable Joyce White Vance
Vacancy Announcement Number 11-NDAL-04**

About the Office:

The United States Attorney's Office prosecutes federal criminal offenses, and defends the U.S. Government's interest in civil cases. The United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Alabama covers 31 of the state's 67 counties, and has a branch office located in Huntsville, Alabama.

**Responsibilities and
Opportunity Offered:**

The United States Attorney's Office is seeking applications for a full-time **uncompensated** Special Assistant United States Attorney (SAUSA) who is willing to accept a temporary position that, while unpaid, offers a valuable opportunity to gain exposure to the office while also obtaining valuable legal experience. This position requires a minimum commitment of one year and may be extended for up to one additional year. Prior appellate experience is preferred, but the position is open to lawyers who are finishing judicial clerkships, and for highly qualified candidates who have recently graduated from law school. Applicants must possess superior legal research and writing skills. If invited for an interview, applicants must furnish a writing sample that shows depth in analytical thinking and proficiency in legal research. The SAUSA will be assigned to the Appellate Division and will be responsible for writing responses to post conviction motions and handling appellate matters, including drafting an appellate brief or briefs. Assigned tasks may include post-conviction litigation and handling civil and criminal cases on appeal, as well as providing advice and support at the trial level. Consideration may be given to well qualified candidates who wish to work part-time.

At the conclusion of this term appointment, the SAUSA will not be automatically hired by this office as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA). However, the SAUSA may apply for any vacant AUSA positions in the office after completing service as a SAUSA.

Qualifications:

Required qualifications: Applicants must be U.S. Citizens. Applicants must possess a J.D. degree and be an active member of the bar (any jurisdiction).

Travel:

Occasional travel, both within and outside the District, may be required.

Salary Information:

Position is without compensation. Note that employees of the Department of Justice, including uncompensated SAUSAs, may not engage in the compensated practice of law outside of the office. SAUSAs also may not receive ongoing payments from any law firm during their employment with the Department of Justice; those who have received severance or other one-time payments, or who have an unpaid, future commitment to join a law firm, are welcome to apply.

Location:

This position is located in the Birmingham office. The Northern District is an area of rolling hills, beautiful lakes, downtown lofts, evening concerts in the park, nationally ranked restaurants, and an amusement and theme park.

Relocation Expenses:

Relocation expenses will not be authorized.

**Application Process
and Deadline Date:**

All resumes/applications should be postmarked by July 22, 2011 and should be mailed to :

Human Resources
United States Attorney's Office
1801 Fourth Avenue North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

No telephone calls please.

Internet Sites:

Other information about the United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Alabama may be found at:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/aln>

This and other attorney vacancy announcements can be found at:

<http://www.usdoj.gov/oarm/attvacancies.html>

Department Policies:

Special Assistant United States Attorneys generally must reside in the district to which he or she is appointed. See 28 U.S.C. § 545 for district-specific information.

All initial attorney appointments to the Department of Justice are made on a time-limited (temporary) basis. Temporary appointments may, or may not, be extended or made permanent without further competition.

The U.S. Department of Justice is an Equal Opportunity/Reasonable Accommodation Employer. Except where otherwise provided by law, there will be no discrimination because of color, race, religion, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, disability (physical or mental), age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, status as a parent, membership or non-membership in an employee organization, on the basis of personal favoritism, or any non merit factor. The Department of Justice welcomes and encourages applications from persons with physical and mental disabilities. The Department is firmly committed to satisfying its affirmative obligations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, to ensure that persons with disabilities have every opportunity to be hired and advanced on the basis of merit within the Department of Justice. This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

It is the policy of the Department to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment. Employment is also contingent upon the completion and satisfactory adjudication of a background investigation. Only U.S. citizens are eligible for employment with the Executive Office for Immigration Review and the United States Attorneys' Offices. Unless otherwise indicated in a particular job advertisement, non-U.S. Citizens may apply for employment with other organizations, but should be advised that appointments of non-U.S. Citizens are extremely rare; such appointments would be possible only if necessary to accomplish the Department's mission and would be subject to strict security requirements. Applicants who hold dual citizenship in the U.S. and another country will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, the Department of Justice considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. Applicants eligible for veterans' preference must include that information in their cover letter or resume and attach supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty and other supporting documentation) to their submissions. Although the "point" system is not used, per se, applicants eligible to claim 10-point preference must submit Standard Form (SF) 15, Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference, and submit the supporting documentation required for the specific type of preference claimed (visit the OPM website, www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/SF15.pdf for a copy of SF 15, which lists the types of 10-point preferences and the required supporting document(s). Applicants should note that SF 15 requires supporting documentation associated with service-connected disabilities or receipt of nonservice-connected disability pensions to be dated 1991 or later except in the case of service members submitting official statements or retirement orders from a branch of the Armed Forces showing that his or her retirement was due to a permanent service-connected disability or that he/she was transferred to the permanent disability retired list (the statement or retirement orders must indicate that the disability is 10% or more).

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The Department of Justice cannot control further dissemination and/or posting of information contained in this vacancy announcement. Such posting and/or dissemination is not an endorsement by the Department of the organization or group disseminating and/or posting the information.